

Emblems Of Suicide

(First Poem)

Crane--
yr ol man
musta bn a real bastid
callin yu Hart

Hart--
your green iceberg soul
a birdsong single syllable
crisp as a herald's voice
on
the birth certificate

Hart--
you can't leap naked dear
thru the forests of Cleveland
showing off your tail
to every dirty old kosmos
that loafis along

Hart Crane--
your father
must have been real

(Second Poem)

I've tried to sell
the goddam bridge for you
but these people ain't fools
want one made out of steel and threads
and thrown over a river of some kind

I tried every trick in the book
I even told them that your bridge
is really an organ but they laughed
who ever heard of a paper organ
you can't get music frma paper organ

They won't even buy pieces of it
it seems you can't wear your cutty sark
it ain't no blat
it ain't no bottle of whisky
you can't get music frma paper organ

(Third Poem)

They tell me you didn't just
drink a social martini
but alcohol alcohol
and sometimes hair tonic

They tell me you didn't just
write love poems
didn't juss didn't juss
did you shave your legs
save your pennies for nylons
cover your mouth with lipstick

They tell me they tell me
in Mexico City
you peddled your leaf on public streets

They tell me
you petaled your leaf on public streets

(Fourth Poem)

whit mn didnt break the bread loaf
in to strips of sand/grass
to destroy "poem"

in the begin "love"
the boy attempts mn
direction what rime meter not impo

bridges strain the hearts of cranes
as the machines sing
winter needs a good drubbing

myths is only attemption
the mn attempts man

(Fifth Poem -- Orizaba)

in the gulf of april
spit from a dead volcano
you leaped without speaking
your coat a lump of skin
on the deck of the boat

-- Charles Tidler

West Lafayette, Indiana